

Literary Notes.

The June number of THE PREACHER'S MAGAZINE is at hand with its charming contents, A Missionary Sermon, of sterling worth, by Rev. S. Parkes Cadman appears as leader in this issue. Also a sermon by Rev. W. L. Watkinson, entitled "The Life Indeed," of great excellency. The Rev. Mark Guy Pearse contributes another article to "In the Banqueting House" series termed "The Full Beauty." It is full of beauty. "A Flower Sermon," by F. W. Farrar, D. D., is rich and beautiful, and appropriate for the season. A full and choice number of sketches, sermons, and outlines is to be found in the Homiletical Department. Among them "The Lord's Prayer," by Rev. J. Feather; "Two Degrees of Faith," by Rev. Beran Shepherd; "Love to Christ's Brethren," by Rev. Frederick Harper; "The History of Ungodliness," by Rev. W. Forsyth; "The March of the Good," by Rev. David Thomas; "God Working with Man." Notes and Illustrations are valuable. Bible Readings are very suggestive. The Notes on International S. S. Lessons, by Dr. William E. Ketcham, are of high interest and worth. Also, his "Outlines on the Golden Texts." The Rev. Robert Primrose contributes a "Sermon to the Boys' Brigade," which is timely and instructive. "Helps for Bible Teachers," and other articles are to be found here. The late Dr. Deems' "Prayer Meeting Talks" are continued. It is one of the best of this steadily growing and popular magazine. Fifteen cents a copy, \$1.50 per year. Wilbur B. Ketcham 2 Cooper Union, N. Y.

The Review Section of the HOMILETIC REVIEW for June is peculiarly full, varied and rich. Sir J. William Dawfon, the distinguished Canadian geologist, furnishes the opening article, on "Natural Facts Illustrative of the Biblical Account of the Deluge."

Dr. E. F. Burr, who charmed a whole generation of readers by his "Ecce Cœlum," "Pater Mundi," and many other books, is as fresh and forceful as ever in answering the question: "How Far are Men Responsible for Errors of Opinions?" Taking up the negative side he shows what kinds of errors they are not responsible for. We are glad to see that the REVIEW has opened a Symposium on the Christian Endeavor Movement. Dr. Francis E. Clark, the founder and president of the Y. P. S. C. E., leads off in the discussion, presenting with great clearness the "Aims and Results" of the

movement. To say the least, no one could do that work better. Prof. T. W. Hunt, of Princeton, gives a thoughtful view of "The Reflective Poetry of Pope," bringing out the various homiletic bearings of poems full of ethics and theology. Professor McCurdy, the Assyriologist, of Toronto University, shows the light reflected from recent archeological discoveries, upon the historical situation and the inhabitants of the Land of Canaan, and upon its historical preparation to become the abode of the Hebrews.

The Sermonic Section contains sermons from representative men, and is more than usually full and rich.

Dr. Stuckenberg, the specialist, treats in "The Social Problem" several of the burning questions of the age, and in the "School for Social Study," "The Causes for the Social Problem." Among the miscellaneous articles we notice one of special interest and timeliness by Rev. James H. Ross of Roxbury, Mass., on "The Hymns of Mrs. Elizabeth Rundle Charles," whose death we recorded not long since.

These are but specimens of the very many excellent things in which the REVIEW abounds. The caste of the present number is certainly strong and practical.

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"PROVE all things; hold fast to that which is good," is a divine injunction. Our Heavenly Father knew that our faith would weaken, our grasp relax, and dark clouds would intervene between us and the city of God; hence the admonition to "hold fast to that which is good." The old ocean is not always full, but at times recedes backward. The sun does not always shine; if it did vegetation would soon wither and die. All is not sunshine in the Christian life. Dark times will come, and only by a persistent effort will we succeed in outriding the storm, and safely land in the kingdom of God.—Ex.

GOD wants an active people who are diligent in every good work. Our duty is clearly laid down in the Scriptures, both to God and to each other, and it requires an effort on our parts to familiarize ourselves with it. God deals out knowledge in parcels, and requires us to gather them up.

OUR love to Christ, as expressed by obedience to his commandments, and delight in his instructions, is the sure evidence of his love of us.

Items of Interest.

—It is observed in England that most young men fresh from the universities are abandoning the study of law for medicine.

—The Railways in France employ 24,080 women, the majority of whom receive a small sum for opening and closing gates where roads cross the track.

—Dr. Wm. W. Sacques, an electrician of Boston, claims to have discovered a way to get electricity out of coal directly without the need of fire.

—The Supreme Court of Massachusetts has decided that it is contrary to the constitution of the state that women shall be notaries public, or Justices of the Peace.

—The great new Boston public library has already been found to have been ill planned and inadequate. It cost \$2,500,000, and now \$25,000 is about to be expended to construct a "suitable reading room."

—It is said that the first match was the product of the ingenuity of John Frederick Komerer, who early in this century was imprisoned in the penitentiary at Hohenasperg, in Germany. He invented the lucifer match while in his gloomy dungeon.

—The steamer Monowi brought news to San Francisco of the murder of missionaries by the natives of the Solomon Islands. Two English missionaries were killed, though those on the Malayta Island escaped. Two French traders and one United States citizen were killed, and cannibalism followed.

—The Florida legislature was none too soon in passing a law to protect the alligators of the state. These have been shot that bags and purses might be made out of their skins, till their numbers were seriously decreasing. And as a consequence the mice on which they live were more seriously increasing and destroying the crops.

—Notwithstanding the pronounced opposition of many gold men and some of the A. P. A's, it seems settled that Major McKinley, of Ohio, will be nominated by the Republican Convention in St. Louis. His record on free silver pleases the West. He voted to suspend the rules to pass a bill to authorize the free coinage of silver; he voted yea for passing the bill vetoed by Mr. Hayes over his veto, and earnestly advocated the Sherman bill, saying, "We cannot have free coinage now, except in the manner provided in the bill." His record on protection pleases the East, and his nomination seems assured.